

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

December 11, 2018

Support for Bioscience Los Angeles County, Inc. (BioLA)

In 2015, the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) highlighted the importance of economic development in stimulating regional job growth and for lifting residents out of poverty. Seven industries were targeted based on their proven ability to create jobs and wealth. Bioscience was the first of the industry sectors selected by the County for focused support.

A 2014 study by the Battelle Memorial Institute affirmed the County’s potential for becoming a national bioscience industry leader and identified the enablers that could grow the industry and help the County realize its full potential. In 2016, under contract to the County, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation released the *Los Angeles County Bioscience Industry Cluster Development Implementation Plan*. A key need identified by these two reports was the establishment of an entity that could serve as a hub for knowledge, innovation resources, coordination among players, and greater cohesion around biosciences Countywide.

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
**December 11, 2018**  
**PAGE 2**

The recently-incorporated *Bioscience Los Angeles County, Inc.* (BioLA) will address the need identified by the foregoing reports. BioLA's mission is to serve as an innovation catalyst and entrepreneurial hub for government, research institutions, and private investors to accelerate startup activity and amplify economic opportunity throughout the region.

BioLA is intended to act as a catalyst for the growth and development of the biosciences ecosystem in the County; as such, it has been incorporated as a California public benefit corporation, and is seeking tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. As a non-profit corporation, BioLA will be funded through various donations and will recruit and retain staff who will work to promote the Los Angeles region as a national hub for bioscience.

The County is home to 2,448 life science establishments with more than 231,000 direct and indirect jobs. Yet in spite of this strength, much of the talent and research that are developed in the County at its world-renowned universities and research institutions migrate to other regions that have more receptive business ecosystems for fostering growth and success. BioLA would bring together stakeholders that include academic institutions, research hospitals, investors, startups, mature companies, trade associations and public and quasi-public agencies to advance the pace of innovation and ensure that the County benefits from the job creation that arises from commercialization of the cutting-edge research taking place in the County.

Supporting BioLA will be the latest County initiative to boost the bioscience industry. The County has also funded bioscience incubators at California State University, Los

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
**December 11, 2018**  
**PAGE 3**

Angeles and at LA BioMed on the Harbor-UCLA Medical Campus, set aside 15-acres on the Harbor-UCLA Medical Campus for the development of a biotech park, allocated \$15 million to create a Bioscience Investment Fund for early-stage startups, and partnered with community colleges and industry leaders to implement life sciences apprenticeship programs.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Recognize that by carrying out its purposes as set forth herein and in its organizational documents, *Bioscience Los Angeles County, Inc.* (BioLA) will be lessening the burdens of government by implementing key elements of the County of Los Angeles Bioscience Initiative.
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, or her designee, to work with County Counsel and other pertinent County departments to work with BioLA leadership in support of BioLA's mission to serve as an innovation catalyst and entrepreneurial hub for government, research institutions, and private investors to accelerate startup activity and amplify economic opportunity throughout Los Angeles County and provide periodic reports to the Board of Supervisors, as deemed appropriate.

###

(DR/CG)